



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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11 JANUARY 1966

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1. North Vietnam

The new batch of infiltrators apparently now moving into South Vietnam is evidently another group of regulars specifically trained by the North Vietnamese 325th Division for a fighting role in the south. Analysis of North Vietnamese communications suggests that this movement got under way in late December.

It is estimated that the North Vietnamese could infiltrate a monthly average of 4,500 men into the south throughout 1966 without unduly straining their manpower resources.

[redacted] Hanoi has been recruiting new men quickly to fill the holes left in its military ranks by departing infiltrators. It appears, in fact, that there has been a significant increase in over-all North Vietnamese Army strength through stepped-up conscription.

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2. Communist China

The shrillness of recent Chinese propaganda against the US peace efforts suggests that Peking fears its hard-line position on Vietnam may alienate world opinion even further. Peking may well also be worried about a possible weakening in Hanoi's determination to continue the war.

There have been four major Chinese blasts on the subject in the past five days. They all seem designed to convince others that the US efforts are "filthy and vicious" attempts to screen preparations for an escalation of the war. Peking's rejection of every offer is described as in the interest of the Vietnamese people "who cannot be cowed or fooled."

The latest Chinese blast in today's People's Daily referred for the first time to a possible US "scaling down of the fighting" in South Vietnam and said this would be another US "trick."

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3. Soviet Union

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4. Indonesia

Sukarno's order today expelling all US correspondents from Indonesia affects only two or three people. Several other press representatives have left the country in recent weeks.

The ouster points up Sukarno's extreme sensitivity to reporting in the US press that he is on the political decline. It is still not clear whether he intends the ban to be permanent or only temporary.

5. Burundi

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extremists in the Burundi Government plan to use the retaliatory expulsion of their ambassador in Washington as an excuse to break relations with the US immediately.

6. Chile

Two of Chile's largest copper mines have been closed down again for more than a week as a result of renewed strikes. An industry-wide work stoppage is now feared.

The Communist-dominated copper federation wants complete nationalization of the US mines or at least substantial benefits for the workers. The government advocates partial state ownership and a modest wage increase.

There are no signs of settlement.

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7. Dominican Republic

Garcia Godoy has announced that some rebel military leaders will be leaving today or tomorrow for overseas assignments. His statement that Caamano and Montes Arache are to follow along shortly afterward may represent wishful thinking.

The departure of the rebels would still not necessarily ensure that a confrontation with the regular military could be avoided. The armed forces leaders have said that they would "consider" changes in the high command only if the rebel military chiefs leave, but recently they have been stressing that no changes will be accepted until after elections.

Garcia Godoy is considering taking over the post of minister of defense [REDACTED]

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Such a move would jeopardize his chances of establishing even a degree of harmony with the military, no matter what the outcome of the present crisis.

There have been further disturbances in Santo Domingo today, including two more shootings. Agitators are calling for a continuation of the general strike, but at this point the walkout seems to be losing momentum.

8. India

There appears to be little if any crystallization of political opinion in New Delhi on a successor to Shastri. The real work on this problem will apparently not get under way until Friday when a working group of the Congress Party is scheduled to begin discussions.

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